(9) CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for cycling trigger-event operations of a networked computer peripheral, the method comprising:

periodically monitoring at least one current timestamp service across a network connection;

recording a first timestamp indicative of time of current trigger-event;

using the first timestamp and current timestamp, calculating elapsed time since a last trigger-event; and

re-running said trigger-event operations only when the elapsed time exceeds a pre-specified period for cycling operations.

2. The method as set forth in claim 1, said calculating further comprising:

including accounting for any peripheral power-off time period.

3. The method as set forth in claim 1, said periodically monitoring further comprising:

monitoring coordinated universal time from a network time protocol server.

4. The method as set forth in claim 2, comprising:

when no power-off condition occurs during operation of the peripheral, calculating elapsed time, ET, since a previous trigger-event operation in accordance with an equation:

$$ET = CT_R - TOTE,$$

where CT_R is the current real time and TOTE is a recorded timestamp indicative of the trigger-event, and a determination:

is $ET > P_{MAX}$?,

where "P_{MAX}" is a maximum period of operation pre-specified before re- is to be run.

5. The method as set forth in claim 2, comprising:

when a power off condition occurs during operation of the peripheral, calculating elapsed time since a previous trigger-event operation in accordance with an equation:

$$ET = RT - TOS,$$

where TOS is the approximate time of power off condition, and
RT is a timestamp indicative of a following power on condition, and a determination:

is $ET > P_{MAX}$?.

6. A computer peripheral comprising:

a machine having a memory including a predetermined cyclical machine associated recalibration routine; and

on-board said machine, a network interface coupling the machine to a network, an application for obtaining timestamps across said interface, and a routine for calculating elapsed time since running the predetermined cyclical recalibration routine using said timestamps.

7. The apparatus as set forth in claim 6 wherein said calculating includes accounting for time lapsed while said machine is in a power off condition.

8. The apparatus as set forth in claim in a computer peripheral printer.

9. A computer memory having code for cycling calibration operations of a networked computer peripheral, the memory comprising:

computer code periodically monitoring at least one current timestamp service across a network connection;

computer code recording a first timestamp indicative of time of current calibration operation;

using the first timestamp and current

timestamp, computer code calculating elapsed time since a last trigger-event cycle; and

computer code re-running said calibration operations only when the elapsed time exceeds a pre-specified period for cycling operations.

10. The memory as set forth in claim 9, said computer code calculating further comprising:

including accounting for any peripheral power-off time period.

11. The memory as set forth in claim 9, said computer code periodically monitoring further comprising:

monitoring coordinated universal time from a network time protocol server.

12. The memory as set forth in claim 10, comprising:

when no power-off condition occurs during operation of the peripheral, computer code calculating elapsed time, ET, since a previous calibration operation in accordance with an equation:

$$ET = CT_R - TOTE,$$

where CT_R is the current real time and TOTE is a recorded timestamp indicative of the trigger-event, and a determination:

is ET > P_{MAX} ?,

where "P_{MAX}" is a maximum period of operation pre-specified before recalibration is to be run.

13. The memory as set forth in claim 10, comprising:

when a power off condition occurs during operation of the peripheral, computer code calculating elapsed time since a previous calibration operation in accordance with the equations:

ET = RT - TOS,

where TOS is the approximate time of power off condition, RT is a timestamp indicative of a following power on condition, and

is ET > P_{MAX} ?.

14. The memory as set forth in claim 9, the code for cycling calibration operations of a networked computer peripheral comprising:

a Java application on a Java Virtual Machine.